

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02
SSM-05 SSO-00 SIG-02 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00
/073 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RONEILL:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. CARTER (INFO)
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)
SSM MR. MC ANDREW
NEA:MR. COLLUMS
NEA/IAI MR. SMITH
NEA/ARN MR. RUTHER

-----120479 302320Z /75

O 302210Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
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AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 207511

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 30

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE, FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 30, 1977. FYI
ONLY, THE OFFICER DOING THE BRIEFING TODAY WAS HODDING
CARTER.

Q. WOULD YOU WALK US THROUGH THE SCHEDULE REGARDING THE
MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSIONS TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU CAN?

A. YES. I'M NOT VERY GOOD ON THAT BECAUSE THERE ISN'T
A HARD SCHEDULE. BUT, IN ANY CASE, WHEN PRESIDENT
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CARTER MET WITH SECRETARY VANCE AUGUST 14TH, HE INDICATED
THEN THAT AFTER THE SECRETARY'S RETURN FROM THE MIDDLE
EAST THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE MEETING FOREIGN MINISTERS
DURING THEIR STAY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THAT, I THINK, IS WHAT'S GIVEN RISE TO THIS CURRENT RE-RUN
OF THAT STATEMENT HERE TWO WEEKS LATER.

I DON'T HAVE A SCHEDULE TO GIVE YOU YET. I WOULD SUGGEST
THAT INSOFAR AS THE PRESIDENT'S MEETINGS, THE WHITE HOUSE

WOULD BE THE PLACE FOR THAT. AS SOON AS
I HAVE A SCHEDULE FOR THE SECRETARY'S MEETINGS, ILL BE
GLAD TO GIVE IT TO YOU.

Q. IS THE SECRETARY SHUTTLING BACK AND FORTH FROM NEW
YORK FOR THOSE MEETINGS, OR HOW DO YOU ENVISAGE IT --
THE SECRETARY SPENDING A TWO-WEEK PERIOD UP IN NEW YORK?

A. IF I HAD THE SCHEDULE I COULD ENVISION IT BETTER. I
MEAN, I MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO BE ACCURATE. BUT IN THE
ABSENCE OF A SCHEDULE I SIMPLY CAN'T SPECULATE.

Q. WELL, DO YOU KNOW YET WHEN THE SECRETARY IS GOING TO NEW YORK?

A. I KNOW FOR A FACT HE WILL BE THERE FOR THAT SECOND WEEK -- I.E., THE 26TH. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT HE COULD BE UP THERE EARLIER. I BELIEVE THAT I ALSO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE THERE FOR TWO WEEKS. THERE'S A POSSIBILITY HE'D BE THERE LONGER. I MEAN, IT'S JUST SIMPLY THAT THESE POSSIBILITIES EXIST.

Q. HODDING, THERE WAS A STORY THIS MORNING ABOUT AN UNUSUAL FUNDING ARRANGEMENT FOR AN ISRAELI ARMS MISSION. IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT AWARE OF THAT ARRANGEMENT?
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A. WELL, THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT AUTHORIZES THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF U.S. DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES. THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTINUOUS SUPERVISION AND GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM.

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DETAILED ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM.

NOW, THAT CARRIES WITH IT THE OBVIOUS IMPLICATION THAT THERE IS A SHARED KNOWLEDGE AND RESPONSIBILITY. FRANKLY, BEYOND MY SAYING THAT -- WHICH IS A FORM OF SAYING THAT THIS DEPARTMENT OFFICIALLY HAD GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF THIS-- I THINK THE DETAILS ON IT THEREAFTER REALLY BELONG TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE -- THAT IS, DETAILED QUESTIONS ON THE OPERATION.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTRATION? THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS DID NOT HAVE TO BE APPROVED THEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE?

A. WELL, THE USE OF FMS FINANCING FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF U.S. SERVICES IS PERMITTED UNDER THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT; AND IT WAS AUTHORIZED IN GENERAL TERMS IN RESPECT TO ISRAEL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Q. HAS IT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY OTHER COUNTRIES?

A. FRANKLY, I THINK I DON'T KNOW OF ANY; AND I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER SPECIFICALLY TO THAT. I'LL TAKE
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THE QUESTION.

Q. IN THIS NOTE THAT YOU DISTRIBUTED THIS MORNING, IT SAYS, "IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING IN ANY CASE THAT THE VISA APPLICATION IN QUESTION IS NO LONGER PENDING." HAS IT BEEN GRANTED OR HAS IT BEEN WITHDRAWN?

A. WITHDRAWN BECAUSE THE MEETING THIS GUY WANTED TO ATTEND WAS HELD WHILE ALL THE QUESTION OF ITS BEING GRANTED WAS BEING DISCUSSED.

Q. SO, IT WAS WITHDRAWN, THE APPLICATION?

A. JUST SIMPLY NO LONGER VALID. HE WANTED IT FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE PURPOSE CAME AND WENT.

Q. THIS IS THE PLO?

A. YES.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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